[Mr. G. Narayana Pillai.]

(*a*) whether the periodical returns of appointments made and punishments inflicted by the Presidents of Municipalities are regularly submitted to the Government; and, if not, whether any action has been taken in the case of the Municipalities that have failed to submit such returns for more than a year; and

(*b*) whether any member of the backward communities has been appointed to any post in the Municipalities during the last two years; and, if so, where?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Member is referred to G. O. Dis. No. 741/S. of 21, dated the 29th September 1921, published on page 521 of Part I of the *Government Gazette* dated the 4th October 1921, ordering the discontinuance of the returns.

(*b*) Yes, at Colachel, Padmanabhapuram, Nagercoil, Shencotta, Vaikam and Alleppey.

Ezhavas in the Education Department.

296. **MR. R. PADMANABHAN** (*Nominated*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state how they account for the low percentage of Ezhavas entertained in the Education Department of the State?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Ezhava graduates who applied for teachers' posts within the last two years and the number actually appointed?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Qualified Ezhavas have begun to apply for places in the Education Department only comparatively recently and in filling up vacancies preference had to be given to persons with previous acting service, often extending over long periods.

(*b*) 17, including one woman; of these, three including the woman, have been appointed as teachers.

MR. R. PADMANABHAN (*Nominated*): Will the Member kindly explain the term "comparatively recently" contained in the answer to part (*a*) of the question and state definitely the dates of the earliest of such applications?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): It relates to the past two years. I have not got the several applications nor their dates. So I am unable to give that information now.

MR. R. PADMANABHAN (*Nominated*): With reference to the answer to part (*b*) of the question, may I know the dates of those appointments?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That information too is not available.

MR. R. PADMANABHAN (*Nominated*): May I know whether the appointments were made after the interpellation was received by the Government or before?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I am not able to compare the dates because, I don't know now when the interpellation itself was received.

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